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(54) Title: SOMATOSTATIN AGONISTS

X-A<sup>1</sup>-cyclo(D-Cys-A<sup>3</sup>-A<sup>4</sup>-Lys-A<sup>6</sup>-A<sup>7</sup>)-A<sup>8</sup>-Y, (1)

(57) Abstract: The present vention is directed to peptides formula (I): X-A1-cyof  $clo(D-Cys-A^3-A^4-Lys-A^6-A^7)-A^8-Y$ , or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein X is H, formula (a) or formula (b); A1 and A3 are each independently the D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of Phe, Tyr, Tyr(I), Trp, 3-Pal, 4-Pal, Cpa and Nal; A4 is L-Trp, D-Trp, L-β-methyl-Trp or D-β-methyl-Trp; A6 is -NH-(CHR1)n-CO-, where n is 2, 3, or 4; A7 is L- or D-Cys; A8 is the D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of Phe, Tyr, Tyr(I), Trp, Nal, Cpa, Val Leu, Ile, Ser and Thr; Y is  $NR^2R^3$  where  $R^2$  and  $R^3$ are each independently H or (C1-C5)alkyl;

R1 is selected from the group consisting H, (C1-C4)alkyl and -CH2-aryl; wherein said aryl is an optionally substituted moiety selected from the group consisting of phenyl, 1-naphthyl, and 2-naphthyl, wherein said optionally substituted moiety is optionally substituted with one or more substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of (C1-6)alkyl, (C2-6)alkenyl, (C<sub>2-6</sub>)alkynyl, aryl, aryl, aryl(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkoxy, -N(R<sup>4</sup>R<sup>5</sup>), -COOH, -CON(R<sup>4</sup>R<sup>5</sup>), halo, -OH, -CN, and -NO<sub>2</sub>; R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> each is, independently for each occurrence, H or  $(C_{1-3})$  alkyl; where the Cys of  $A^2$  is bonded to the Cys of  $A^7$  by a di-sulfide bond formed from the thiol groups of each Cys; pharmaceutical compositions comprising said peptides and the use thereof as a somatostatin receptor subtypes agonist. The peptides of the present invention bind selectively to the somatostatin subtype receptor type-5 and elicit an agonist effect from the somatostatin subtype receptors that the peptides bind to.

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